

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 AID-05 XMB-02 /052 W

----- 084699

R 181000Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2940

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASDY MANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 1061

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, TC

SUBJ: FURTHER COMMENTS ON DUBAI ALUMINUM SMELTER

REF: ABU DHABI 1008

1. ACCORDING TO DUBAI SOURCES ALUMINUM SMELTER DEAL IS NOTHING MORE THAN COMMITMENT FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY AT THIS STAGE. PRICE FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY IS 1.5 MILLION STERLING WHICH AS ONE OF OUR INTERLOCUTORS COMMENTED WAS MOST EXPENSIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY HE HAD EVER HEARD OF. SHAIKH RASHID'S CONSULTANTS ON MANY PROJECTS, SIR WILLIAM HALCROW, BELIEVE SHAIKH RASHID HAS BEEN HAD ON THIS ONE. RASHID, HOWEVER, IS SET ON IDEA ON BUILDING UP INDUSTRIAL AREA AND PORT AT JEBEL AALI (ABOUT 30 KMS. WEST OF

DUBAI) AND BRITISH SMELTER NEGOTIATORS APPARENTLY PLAYED ASTUTELY ON THIS DESIRE. HALCROW SEES PROBLEMS OF SETTING UP ALUMINUM SMELTER IN DUBAI AS "IMMENSE" AND DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT PROJECT WILL IN FACT EVER GET OFF THE GROUND.

2. IN MORE GENERAL TERMS, HALCROW OFFICE IS DISCOURAGED AT RASHID'S INCREASING DISPOSITION TO FALL FOR COSTLY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WHICH THEY DO NOT CONSIDER APPROPRIATE FOR DUBAI. THEY CITE AS EXAMPLE RASHID'S INSISTENCE
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ON DEVELOPMENT OF JEBEL AALI AREA IN SPITE OF FACT THAT

IT WOULD COST ESTIMATED 60 MILLION STERLING TO DREDGE DEEP
WATER CHANNEL TO SHORE, WHEREAS COST COULD BE REDUCED TO
4 MILLION STERLING IF RASHID WOULD BE WILLING TO LOCATE
PORT AND INDUSTRIAL AREA 10 KMS. CLOSER TO TOWN, STILL
LEAVING PLENTY OF ROOM FOR EXPANSION OF DUBAI RESIDENTIAL
AREA.
STERNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALUMINUM, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ABUDH01061
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750175-0076
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750540/aaaabjtt.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ABU DHABI 1008
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER COMMENTS ON DUBAI ALUMINUM SMELTER
TAGS: EIND, TC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006